

be pressed in the budget; and in the budget for 1928, a provision of Rs. 14,700 has been made under 'Forest Communications' and of Rs. 5,000 for the improvement of waterways.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: With reference to the answer to question No. 11, will the Government be pleased to say whether it was not the Conservator who made the suggestion that the improvement of communications in forests on a large scale would involve heavy outlay and the services of a special engineer?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: I am not in possession of the information now. I shall enquire and say whether the suggestion referred to was made by the Conservator.

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF FORESTS.

12. MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: (a) Will the Government be pleased to say whether any Forest Officer has been deputed to continue the economic survey of the forests which the present Conservator was doing while he was Senior Deputy Conservator?

(b) If no one has been deputed till now, will the Government be pleased to depute the present Senior Deputy Conservator to continue the work?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The question of detailing an officer to continue the economic survey is under consideration.

PURCHASE OF A ROLLER FOR THE FOREST DEPARTMENT.

13. MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: With reference to the roller, etc., got down by the Forest Department for use in its rubber plantations, will the Government be pleased to furnish the following information:—

(a) the destination of the roller, whether any other articles were got down along with it, through which Firm it was purchased, when and at what cost;

(b) if it did not reach the division for which it was intended, who took charge of it, why, and how long he kept it and for what reason it was so kept; and

(c) what has become of these articles and what steps have been taken by the Government for their recovery?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (a) A rubber roller and accessories were purchased by the late Mr. V. Raman Menon, when he was the Conservator of Forests, from Messrs Darragh Smail and Co., Alleppey, on the 27th May, 1920, for Bh.Rs. 524-12-0, for the use of the Perumtode Rubber Plantations.

(b) The roller and its stand are reported to have been broken by an accident and the late Conservator kept them with a view to have them repaired or replaced.

(c) He offered to repay their cost, if he could not have them repaired or replaced.

[Mr. S. Paramesvara Aiyar.]

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: With reference to the answer to question No. 13, will the Government be pleased to say if they have accepted the Conservator's offer and found out who the culprit was that broke the roller?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: The Conservator reports that it was one of his private servants who broke the roller.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: With reference to the above answer, will the Government be pleased to say how the private servant happened to handle the roller?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: The roller and stand were taken from Quilon to Trivandrum along with certain private things belonging to the late Conservator Mr. Raman Menon, when his office was shifted from Quilon to Trivandrum.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: With reference to the above answer, will the Government be pleased to say how the private articles of the Conservator and the public articles happened to get mixed up?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: That is the report. I have no further information.

THE TRAVANCORE FOREST COLLEGE.

14. MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: (a) Did not the Government veto the proposal of the late Conservator Mr. V. Subrahmanya Aiyar for starting a Forest College?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to say what reasons led them to sanction the same proposals made by Mr. V. Raman Menon, especially when the Economic Development Board had recommended the starting of a combined School of Agriculture and Forestry?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (a) Mr. Subrahmanya Aiyar's proposal to start a Forest School in 1094 was ordered to lie over.

(b) The reasons that induced the Government to sanction the opening of the Forest College are detailed in G. O. Dis. No. 1158 of 21/ Development, dated the 1st October 1921, which was published at page 950 of the Gazette dated the 2nd October 1921. The starting of a combined School of Forestry and Agriculture was not feasible, pending the return of the officers of the Agricultural Department deputed for training to Nagpur and Poona.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to say if the late Conservator Mr. Raman Menon himself did not object to the starting of the Forest College?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: In one of his earlier reports he stated that a Forest School for the training of Foresters and Guards might be opened. There was no reference to the opening of a Forest College in that earlier report.